

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING POINT REYES FARMSTEAD CHEESE COMPANY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company on the occasion of the company's recognition by Sand County Foundation, the California Farm Bureau Federation and Sustainable Conservation as the recipient of the prestigious 2013 California Leopold Conservation Award. Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the Leopold Conservation Award recognizes extraordinary landowner achievement in voluntary stewardship and management of natural resources.

Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company and its owners, the Giacomini Family, have prioritized healthy landscapes, clean waterways and a clean-energy future. Rotational grazing of their cows keeps soils healthy and helps prevent harmful erosion, and their methane digester produces renewable energy to power their dairy and cheese facility.

Please join me in congratulating the Giacomini and Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company on this important recognition and for the lasting impact their conservation policies will have on California's ranching community and its environment.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and its 2014 theme—Civil Rights in America, focusing on the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This year's theme reflects on the many courageous individuals who fought for an end to discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Through the passage of the Civil Rights Act, discrimination was outlawed in public facilities including restaurants and hotels, ending the era of legal segregation in such establishments.

Leading up to the passage of the Civil Rights Act, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led the Civil Rights March on Washington fighting for, amongst other ideals, meaningful civil rights legislation, including better employment opportunities and an end to segregation. This historic event led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which paved the way for future anti-discrimination legislation, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965. While there is more work to be done, we must follow in the footsteps of the great leaders of the Civil

Rights Movement in order to ensure that every American is afforded equal opportunity and justice.

This month and always, it is important that we honor and celebrate America's greatest advocates for equal rights and civil liberties, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Dubois, and Thurgood Marshall, and to remember the extraordinary contributions of organizations including the NAACP, the National Urban League, and the Congress for Racial Equality, as well as many others which have played such a critical role in changing the landscape of American society for the better. As we pay tribute to these heroes of African American history, let us remember their profound perseverance, sacrifice, and struggle in the fight for freedom and equality which has shaped our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who fought, and those who continue to fight, for civil rights and justice. Through the efforts of these honorable individuals, we are reminded how far we have come as a nation, while realizing there is still progress to be made.

HONORING HARRISON RAMSDEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harrison Ramsden. Harrison is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Harrison has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Harrison has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Harrison has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Harrison Ramsden for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE FLOYD ADAMS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Honorable Floyd

Adams, Jr. of Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Adams was a long time leader in our community, and I was fortunate to work closely with him for many years. Floyd was the first African-American mayor of Savannah, holding office from 1996 until 2003.

Floyd began his career running the Savannah Herald, a weekly newspaper covering the African-American community in Savannah that his father started in 1945. He found his calling in public service and ran for the Savannah City Council in 1982. He represented the First District on the City Council until 1995, when he decided to run for mayor of Savannah. He won the election, becoming the 63rd mayor of Georgia's oldest city and taking command during an important time in Savannah's history. He ran again in 1999, facing no opposition and serving the city and its great people until 2003, when term limits prevented him from running again.

Floyd came into office in January of 1996 as the city prepared to do its part in the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. Though the games were hosted in Atlanta, Savannah was the location of all sailing competitions. He witnessed an incredible expansion of Savannah's tourism industry, thanks in part to the success of John Berendt's bestseller "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." He also led Savannah through the troubles of 1999's Hurricane Floyd, which caused mass evacuations throughout the Southeast. His leadership through times both good and bad should not be forgotten.

After his time as mayor, Floyd remained involved in Savannah politics. In 2008, he ran for the District 2 seat on the Savannah-Chat ham County School Board and won. Floyd's continued support of Savannah and his unfailing determination to make the city a better place inspired many in our community. We all can learn from his example.

The Honorable Floyd Adams, Jr. died February 1, 2014. He was, and still is, an inspiration to the people of Savannah. He will be remembered as a fair and courageous leader. I am truly honored to be able to recognize the Honorable Floyd Adams, Jr. today, and I consider myself lucky to have called him a friend. He will be deeply missed by his community, friends, and family.

JOHN B. "JACK" NEWKIRK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John B. "Jack" Newkirk for his induction into the Jefferson County Business Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame recognizes outstanding area businesses, individuals, organizations and civic leaders from the past and present that have significantly impacted and contributed to the Jefferson County community.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

One of Jack's greatest contributions to our community is his medical device inventions. He and his wife, Carol, started companies that distributed life-saving medical devices. These medical devices have improved the quality of life for thousands of people around the world.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jack for his outstanding contributions to the world of medicine and well-deserved recognition from the Jefferson County Business Community.

IN HONOR OF THE BULLHEAD
CITY BEE

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Bullhead City Bee's 24th anniversary. The Bee was established on December 27, 1989 and serves the cities of Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada. The co-founders of the newspaper include Hilda Gay Zimmer, Jim Dir, and Thom McGraham, the current publisher. Many Bullhead City-area residents turn to the Bee for their local news, making this an important community newspaper.

Congratulations to the Bullhead City Bee on 24 years of success. May they find continued success for years to come.

IN MEMORIAM OF SARALEE
MCCLELLAND KUNDE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today in memory of Saralee McClelland Kunde, who passed away on January 26, 2014 after a long battle with cancer. In 1938, her parents, Robert and Lillian "Sweet Lil" McClelland purchased a milk route in Marin County and subsequently entered the dairy business, hand-milking 18 brown Swiss cows. Born in Marin Saralee hurled herself into the dairy operation and into 4-H, raising Holsteins and showing them at local fairs.

Revered as a superstar by others who work to promote the county's grapes, wines, milk and other bounty, and to preserve its ranch and farmlands, Kunde championed the Sonoma County Harvest Fair since its inception and was a key player in the Select Sonoma County marketing campaign and the Russian River Valley Winegrowers.

A generous philanthropist, Saralee rallied others to contribute to myriad Sonoma County causes, including the 4-H Center in Rohnert Park. Tireless and innovative, Kunde constantly enacted strategies to promote the Harvest Fair and the Sonoma County Fair, challenge and inspire youth involved in 4-H and Future Farmers of America, fortify cooperation among grape growers and other producers, and introduce the general public to the farm experience.

The depth of Saralee's commitment to agriculture in Sonoma County fueled many efforts to unite ranchers and farmers and to propel

their products into national markets. She was a formidable force in uniting the diverse and often conflicting members of the agricultural community.

Mr. Speaker, Saralee Kunde's vibrant life is proof positive that one woman can make a difference. The legacy she leaves will not soon be forgotten as much of her legacy lives on all around us in Sonoma County and beyond. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and honor her memory.

HONORING SCOTT PATTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Scott Patton. Scott is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Scott has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Scott has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Scott has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Scott Patton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING KENDALL
COYNE ON WINNING THE SILVER
MEDAL AS A MEMBER OF THE
U.S. WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM AT
THE XXII WINTER OLYMPICS IN
SOCHI, RUSSIA

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Kendall Coyne for competing and winning a silver medal as a member of the U.S. Women's Hockey Team at the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics. I am very proud of Coyne's performance at the Olympic Games and honored to have her as a resident of Palos Heights, IL.

Born in Palos Heights, Illinois, Kendall Coyne from an early age dedicated her heart and soul to the sport she loves, hockey. When she was three years old, her mother tried to get her involved in figure skating, but Kendall would not have any part of it. Inspired by her older brother Kevin, Kendall laced up her hockey skates and played on boys' hockey teams until she joined the U-18 national team at the age of 15.

While other children her age would be playing with their friends or sleeping in on the weekends, Kendall would wake her parents up at six in the morning so that they could take her to the rink for practice. Not only is she a dedicated athlete, she is a full-time student.

After graduating from Carl Sandburg High School, in Orland Park, Illinois, she attended the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Massachusetts for their post-graduate program. After graduating from Berkshire, Kendall was awarded a scholarship to play women's hockey at Northeastern University. At Northeastern, Kendall is studying communications and hopes to one day become a sports analyst.

At just 21 years of age, Kendall Coyne has been a three-time world championship medalist, a participant in four Nations Cups, a three-time U18 world championship medalist, a two-time Hockey East First-Team All-Star selection, and a Hockey East Rookie of the Year among many other distinctions. During the XXII Olympics, she scored two goals and recorded four assists while helping her team reach the gold medal game.

At 5'2", Kendall Coyne is the shortest member of the U.S. women's national team. But what she might lack in height she makes up in dedication, perseverance, strength, agility, and drive. I am certain the tradition of success Kendall has established will continue for a long time to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous accomplishments of Kendall Coyne and to congratulate her and the entire U.S. Women's Hockey Team for winning the silver medal at the XXII Winter Olympics in Sochi.

HONORING MARY SIMON

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself and Representatives HONDA, ESHOO, and SPEIER to recognize the service of Ms. Mary Simon to San Jose and the Bay Area community.

Ms. Simon, the founder and executive director of Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT), will retire in the spring of 2014 after 20 years at its helm. She will greatly be missed.

After 12 years of teaching math and science to second and third graders, Ms. Simon founded RAFT in 1994 with a mission to help teachers transform children's learning experience through hands-on education. RAFT is a non-profit organization that provides educators with prepared teaching kits and idea sheets for activities in mathematics, science, and art. Additionally, RAFT helps teachers access education specialists who can assist with planning lessons and projects as well as locate affordable teaching supplies.

Ms. Simon's remarkable vision had been to create a place that celebrates and supports great teaching. Through her hard work, Ms. Simon was able to bring together countless volunteers, donors, and companies to collaborate in this effort. Under her leadership, thousands of teachers joined RAFT to improve the quality of education in the Bay Area.

Under Ms. Simon's guidance, RAFT became an important resource for educators and continues to foster community involvement. With Ms. Simon's effort and unwavering commitment, RAFT grew into a 10,000-member organization and continues to enrich the education experience of hundreds of thousands of students. RAFT's products, services, and

teaching supplies improve the educational experience of over 825,000 kids per year.

We wish to congratulate Ms. Mary Simon on her impressive and impactful career and commend her years of service to the San Jose and the Bay Area community generally. Continued efforts and innovation in education of generations to come must be one of our top priorities as a nation, and Ms. Simon's efforts in this area are invaluable.

Ms. Simon worked to create a place where teachers could come together for the support and respect for the important, essential work that they do for our children. Because of Ms. Simon's vision, creativity, and dedication, RAFT will continue to make a positive impact on our educators and students. Ms. Simon's service has made our community a better place, and she will be dearly missed.

GARY WINK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gary Wink for his induction into the Jefferson County Business Hall of Fame and for his outstanding career in the Golden business community.

Gary served for 22 years as an executive and President and CEO of the Golden Chamber of Commerce. During that time, the membership of the Chamber more than doubled. Gary expanded the Golden Fine Arts Festival into an event ranking in the top 50 festivals in the nation, and he developed the Golden Farmers Market, one of the finest in Colorado.

Gary's leadership at the Golden Chamber of Commerce was instrumental in securing a thriving business climate that Golden continues to enjoy.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Gary on his contributions to the Golden business community and his well-deserved honor from the Jefferson County Business Community.

IN HONOR OF REPRESENTATIVE
PAUL CLYMER

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, State Representative Paul Clymer is a principled leader, a man of character, veteran, and strong advocate for the citizens of the 145th legislative district of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. We honor his service to our country, state and community, as we also recognize his leadership in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where he chairs the Education Committee and is a member of the Gaming Oversight Committee. Representative Clymer plans to retire at the end of the year, having served in state office for 34 years. An avid historian, he was responsible for developing funding strategies for the restoration and preservation of 85 of 147 Civil War monuments on the historic Gettysburg, Pennsylvania battlefield. Additionally, he is chairman of the committee working to preserve the historic integrity of the

state Capitol building, its architecture, furniture, paintings and artifacts. On these and other issues important to the people he represents, namely, open space, farmland preservation, public transportation, gaming, veterans affairs, business and jobs, Representative Paul Clymer rises above the crowd, and in so doing, has set an outstanding example for others to follow.

HONORING GRANT BESS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Bess. Grant is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Grant has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Bess for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING THE LEMONT
HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY
CHEERLEADING SQUAD ON WIN-
NING THE 2014 MEDIUM DIVISION
ISHA CHEERLEADING STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lemont High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad. On February 8th, the squad competed in the 2014 IHSA Medium Division Cheerleading State Championship at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington, IL and placed 1st in their division. I appreciate all of the incredible hard work and dedication this squad has put into their performance and would like to congratulate them on this tremendous team achievement.

The Lemont High School Varsity Squad comprises 19 members which includes Seniors: Madison Detres, Emily Durham, Gianna Letizia, Miranda Neumann, Rebecca Peraino, Kelsey Tate, Gianna Turek, and D.J. Wohead, Juniors: Easton Kral, Reann Kwasneski, Elly Lambert, Nicole Markley, Stephanie Markley, Kayly Norris, Samantha Palumbo, Jenna Polk, and Samantha Walus, Sophomores: Erin Cliff and Katelyn Papierski, and Freshman: Caitlyn Henry.

This squad under the guidance of head coach Dave Erlenbaugh, has had a very successful competition season leading up to the ISHA Cheerleading State Championships. No-

table wins include their 1st place finish at both Sectionals and the Winter Meltdown Competition.

Lemont's varsity squad has made 9 consecutive final appearances at the IHSA State Championships and won the title in 2009, 2010, and 2011. This most recent win only adds to their excellent competition record.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this impressive accomplishment made by the Lemont High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad and to congratulate them on their state championship win.

RECOGNIZING CAMDEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Camden County, GA in light of their recent designation as a Coast Guard Community. Camden is the first county in the nation to be given this distinguished distinction, as it normally only is given to cities. Camden, however, is such a great supporter of the Coast Guard, its personnel, its families, and its mission that the award was given to the county as a whole.

Camden County is incredibly rich in history. Founded on February 5, 1777, it is one of the oldest counties in Georgia. It was named for Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden, who was an Englishman in favor of the American Independence. Modern day Camden County includes the cities of St. Mary's, Woodbine, and Kingsland and is home to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. Kings Bay is the Atlantic Fleet's home port for U.S. Navy's ballistic missile nuclear submarines, the Ohio-class. It also is home to Cumberland Island National Seashore, a National Wilderness Area.

With this honor, Camden County and its cities join 15 other cities to earn this designation, but Camden is the only to be labeled a Community. The designation was supported by the Congressional committees that oversee the Coast Guard and by the Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Coast Guard plays a major role in insuring the safety and security of Camden County and the Georgia Coast. Two teams are stationed in Camden County: the Maritime Force Protection Unit, which protects Navy assets at Kings Bay, and the Maritime Safety and Security Team 91108, which was established following the 9/11 attacks.

This honor would not have been possible without the strong support of many groups in Camden County. The Camden Partnership, which was created to support both Navy and Coast Guard members in Camden, made visits to 210 congressional offices to support restoring the Coast Guard budget when the group faced budget cuts. The Coast Guard Community of Camden organizes events and programs in support of Coast Guard members and families. The local Navy League awards its Coast Guard Sailor of the Year, and the Chamber of Commerce supports a military member of the month.

Camden County is a proud community and a model for the nation. I consider myself fortunate to represent such an incredible group of

people, and I am thankful for the hard work and tireless dedication they display for the men and women who protect us.

DR. CYNTHIA STEVENSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Cynthia Stevenson for her outstanding contribution to the Jefferson County School District and her induction into the Jefferson County Business Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame recognizes area businesses, individuals, organizations and civic leaders from past and present that significantly impacted and contributed to the Jefferson County community.

Cindy has been a part of Jefferson County schools most of her life as a student, a teacher, principal and superintendent.

As a result of her leadership, Jefferson County Schools thrived. Her dedication and commitment to providing the highest quality education to our kids will benefit our community for years to come. I am proud to call Cindy my friend and thankful for her public service.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Stevenson on her contributions and I am deeply grateful for the legacy of excellence she has given to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE EVENTS OF
FEBRUARY 26, 1996

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues and people all over the world in recognizing the tragedy which occurred on February 26, 1992 in the small Azerbaijani town of Khojaly. The attack resulted in the deaths of 613 Azerbaijani civilians and is one of the most devastating acts of violence in the South Caucasus in recent history. According to some accounts, the fate of 150 Khojaly inhabitants is still unknown, even after twenty-one years.

The numerous casualties in the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan underscore the need for a political-rather than a military-solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. A fair and comprehensive settlement is the most effective tool to encourage stability, prosperity, and a lasting peace in the region. As co-chair of the Minsk Group, the United States remains committed to working with both sides to that end. With that goal in mind, we remember and mourn the 613 victims of Khojaly and work together to safeguard the human rights of all.

HONORING JORDAN BENNETT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jordan Bennett.

Jordan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jordan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jordan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jordan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jordan built a planter and a bench in the vegetable garden at Harvesters Community Food Network, a local food bank in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jordan Bennett for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ADDRESSING AFROPHOBIA IN
EUROPE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the European Parliament's February 20, 2014 public hearing on Aphrobia, as well as the critical importance of continuing to work with the European Union (EU) to address racism and discrimination against Black Europeans. It has been organized by the Green Party in collaboration with the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) and the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (ECCAR).

An estimated seven to ten million individuals of African descent currently live in Europe, particularly in France, the United Kingdom, and The Netherlands. These populations form an influential part of the African Diaspora. From labor and scholarship to politics and civil rights, they have contributed greatly to European history and culture over the past several centuries. However, the story of Black Europeans remains widely untold, rendering many of their past and present contributions to the political and social life of Europe invisible or forgotten. Furthermore, similar to the experiences of many African Americans, they have increasingly become the targets of discrimination, pernicious racial profiling, and violent hate crimes impacting equal access to housing, employment, education, and justice.

I commend Members of the European Parliament Jean-Jacob Bicep, Jean Lambert, and Philippe Lamberts of the Greens/European Free Alliance (EFA) for building upon previous efforts and hosting a public hearing on Aphrobia in the EU. As the Ranking Democratic Member of the Helsinki Commission, I have long worked with European policymakers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and community leaders to help address inequality and discrimination facing persons of African descent.

In November 2013, the U.S. Helsinki Commission hosted an Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) delegation of Black European Rights Leaders representing 10 countries.

During a Commission briefing, entitled "Europeans of African Descent 'Black Europeans': Race, Rights, and Politics," members of the delegation shed light on the challenges encountered by many Black Europeans due to ongoing racism and discrimination, including barriers to greater political representation and leadership opportunities. Furthermore, they drew attention to the need for increased cooperation between Europe and the United States to combat racial discrimination and continuing racial disparities.

In conjunction with the Delegation's visit, I introduced H. Res. 421 "Recognizing People of African Descent and Black Europeans", which outlines concrete steps that the United States can take to help address racism and discrimination in Europe. It calls for the adoption of a Joint U.S.-European Union Action Plan to develop transatlantic solutions to combat racial discrimination and promote racial equality in Europe.

In addition, I sent a letter to President Obama on December 20, 2013 urging him to sign a Presidential Memorandum on "International Initiatives to Advance Human Rights, Social Inclusion, Equality, and Empowerment of Peoples of African Descent."

Mr. Speaker, Europe is currently grappling with complex questions at the intersection of national identity, decreasing birth rates, increasing immigration, security concerns, and a rise in extremist political parties. Cooperation between the United States and the EU is key to addressing the global challenges of racism and discrimination, and we should recognize the efforts made by the EU to address them.

HONORING CAPTAIN ERNEST T.
NORDMAN

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Ernest T. Nordman of Cape Girardeau, Missouri for his outstanding achievements and exemplary years of service to our Nation.

Captain Nordman is being awarded the prestigious Manion Award for Officer Logistcian of the Year. The award is named after 1st Lieutenant Travis Manion, a Marine logistcian who was killed by enemy sniper fire in Iraq in 2007. This award honors outstanding leadership skills, exemplary actions and overall conduct. I would like to congratulate Captain Nordman for this distinguished achievement and his honorable service. I am tremendously grateful for the dedicated men and women who have dutifully served our country, and among them leaders such as Captain Nordman who have risen as admirable leaders. It is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING TALENTED SCIENTISTS AT FORT SETTLEMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the talented young scientists at Fort Settlement Middle School in Sugar Land, Texas. Students Anish Mago, Siddanth Arora, Nithin Parsan, Dillion Ding and their science teacher, Karen Staley, were named first place winners in the 2014 Mars Rover Celebration.

The Mars Rover Celebration is an annual competition that invites students interested in science and engineering to participate in the design and construction of a Mars Rover model that would carry out a specific mission. The Fort Settlement students' mission was to colonize Mars. The team's working model "Amazement" earned them first place in the solar-powered rover division. Having grown up in Clear Lake, near the Johnson Space Center, I too was interested in space exploration as a young student. At a time when America needs more talent in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, it's great to see this enthusiasm for space exploration in our future scientists and leaders.

On behalf of all of everyone from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I'm proud to recognize these young scientists. Congratulations to the Fort Settlement Middle School team on earning this impressive accomplishment. I hope one day to see you all on your own mission to Mars. In this case, the sky is not the limit.

HONORING ZACHARY BISCHLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary Bischler. Zachary is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Zachary has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary Bischler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE DELAWARE RIVER YACHTSMEN'S LEAGUE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the upcoming 100th Year Anniversary of the founding of the Delaware River Yachtsmen's League (DRYL). Founded in 1914, the DRYL is committed to promoting true Yachtsmanship on the Delaware River, its tributaries and surrounding territory.

The DRYL started with a mere five founding clubs, and now contains 35 clubs along with six boating organizations. Over 5,000 boating members support one another in their commitments of successful club activities, working for cleaner waterways, and staying abreast of developing issues and laws.

I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Delaware River Yachtsmen's League for this distinguished milestone in its already impressive history. May we all seek to emulate the League's culture of dedication and hard work.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY SHERIFF CHAD R. KOWALCZYK FOR HIS BRAVERY AND SELFLESSNESS IN THE LINE OF DUTY

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Taylor County Deputy Sheriff Chad R. Kowalczyk for his bravery, selflessness, and quick thinking in the line of duty while responding to a call on September 8, 2013.

Deputy Kowalczyk responded to a call of an armed suspect who had several hostages. Upon arriving at the scene, Deputy Kowalczyk requested back-up.

When the suspect began firing shots at Deputy Kowalczyk, he retreated to a position of cover and attempted to warn the responding officers of the situation. Unable to make radio contact, Deputy Kowalczyk decided to leave his position of cover to get to his squad car, knowingly putting his life in jeopardy.

When Deputy Kowalczyk broke cover, he was struck by a round in his left abdomen.

Deputy Kowalczyk made it to his car and radioed the other officers alerting them of the situation. When they arrived at the scene, they found Deputy Kowalczyk taking up a tactical position, despite his serious injuries.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Kowalczyk may not agree with me, but he is a hero. His quick thinking and selflessness not only saved his fellow officers, but the family held hostage in their home. Please join me in thanking Deputy Kowalczyk once again for his bravery, selflessness, and quick thinking in the line of duty.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES RESOURCE CENTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC) for receiving the Non-Profit of the Year award from the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

For 50 years DDRC has been providing support and opportunities to people with developmental disabilities and their families in Jefferson County. From their humble beginnings in church basements, DDRC has grown to 550 employees and more than 200 volunteers who make a difference in the lives of more than 3000 individuals each year.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC) for this well deserved honor from the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. Your dedication to our community enhances all of our lives.

CONGRATULATING COACH STEVE JENKINS ON HIS 600TH WIN

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Steve Jenkins on his 600th career win as head coach of Evangel University's men's basketball program.

Coach Jenkins reached this impressive feat in his 32nd season at Evangel University, a small Christian college in Springfield, Missouri. With this win, Coach Jenkins is now only the seventh active coach in the NAIA-I division to reach 600 wins.

Through his 30-plus seasons as head coach, Coach Jenkins' teams reached the NAIA national tournament 11 times, including a National Championship in 2002. His teams have captured seven Heart of America conference titles. He was honored as the NAIA National Coach of the Year in 2002, and was named Heart of America Athletic Conference Coach of the Year on six different occasions. Coach Jenkins was inducted into the Springfield Area Sports Hall of Fame in 2011 and the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2013. On March 18, 2014, he will be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

Coach Jenkins' legacy at Evangel University extends beyond his record as a basketball coach. A 1974 Evangel graduate, Coach Jenkins lettered in baseball for 4 years and basketball for 3 years. After pursuing graduate studies, he soon returned to Evangel in 1977 as head baseball coach for 6 seasons, and assistant basketball coach for 5 seasons. He was named head basketball coach in 1982, and on December 5th of this season, coached his 1000th game at Evangel University. In 1998, Coach Jenkins added the responsibility of being the men's golf coach, and is serving in that capacity for the 16th year. He has garnered two Heart of America Coach of the Year honors for men's golf. Steve and his lovely

wife Rhonda, also a graduate of Evangel, have three grown children—Sarah, Jon, and David—and six grandchildren.

Coach Jenkins' exemplary devotion to coaching is only matched by his devotion in the classroom, his love of his family, and his strength in his faith. The Springfield community is justifiably proud of Coach Jenkins and the Evangel basketball program. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his well-deserved victory.

HONORING BORIS TRAJKOVSKI

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Boris Trajkovski.

As the founder and chair of the Congressional Caucus of Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans, and having one of the largest Macedonian communities in my district, I would like to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the tragic and untimely passing of Macedonia's president Boris Trajkovski, who was a great friend to the United States and the American people.

President Trajkovski and his entourage were en route to an international investment conference when his plane crashed near Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina on February 26, 2004. President Trajkovski, aged 47, left behind a wife, Vilma, and two children, Sara and Stefan. His gravestone in Macedonia reads a Biblical verse: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God."

As a member and pastor of the Methodist Church of Macedonia, President Trajkovski was a tireless advocate for religious tolerance, religious freedom, and conflict resolution. He was a man of great faith. His great faith drove him to be a man who led reconciliation throughout his region of the world. In 2002, he was awarded the World Methodist Peace Award by the World Methodist Council for his role in promoting peace and political stability.

At his inauguration ceremony in 1999, President Trajkovski promised: "I intend to be the president of all citizens of Macedonia, regardless of their ethnic or religious background, regardless of their political standing. I shall not allow ethnic hatred and intolerance to undermine Macedonia's stability." While deputy foreign minister, he supported U.S. and NATO-led efforts against Serbia, and allowed for NATO troops to be stationed in Macedonia, during which time Macedonia took in 400,000 Kosovar refugees.

President Trajkovski demonstrated his willingness to work with all of Macedonia's ethnic groups, which helped to prevent a civil war. He worked to foster peace and integrate Macedonia into the international community.

Under President Trajkovski's leadership, Macedonia was one of the first nations to publicly support NATO-efforts in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom and send troops to both, and under his leadership, Macedonia negotiated an agreement with the United States under Article 98 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, signed the agreement on June 30, 2003, and ratified the agreement on October 16, 2003, thereby helping to ensure United States citizens will not be subject to politically motivated prosecutions.

On March 11, 2004, the House of Representatives passed H. Res. 540 expressing the deepest sympathies and solidarity of the American people to the Macedonian people.

As a tribute to President Trajkovski, then-President Bush and then-Secretary Powell recognized Macedonia under its constitutional name Republic of Macedonia, on November 4, 2004.

President Trajkovski's legacy remains today. His wife Vilma has dedicated her life to working to continue his work in bridging youth of all ethnic groups, promoting peace and dialogue, and religious freedom among all, and she is a tireless advocate for breast cancer research. His daughter, Sara, currently works at the Macedonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The American people will forever remember President Trajkovski's friendship, and I hope that one day his dream of Macedonia joining NATO and the EU will become reality.

HONORING NORM HARTY

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norm Harty, who nearly 50 years ago pioneered the technique of using dynamite to clean the inside of a power plant boiler, in order to remove slag deposit. Power plants burning any type of fuel, except natural gas, eventually build ash that creates slag deposits on the tubes running through boilers. This build up can create inefficiency in the operation of a power plant, requiring more fuel to be used to reach the same output a clean boiler could produce, not to mention being a safety hazard as well. The advances Norm and his company helped create in boiler cleaning technology have made their mark.

In 1964 Norm started his own business, N. B. Harty, and hired his first employee. Now 50 years and more than 4,500 jobs later Harty is still running his company which is regarded as the number one explosive cleaning company in the world. Norm has done business in all 50 states in the United States and in Canada, Mexico and Korea.

In addition to his business achievements, Norm and his late wife Billie, have contributed much to their community of Dexter, Missouri.

For the advances Norm and his company helped create in boiler cleaning technology, and his many other contributions to the community, it is my pleasure to recognize his efforts and achievements before the House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM HOMALON

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William Homalon, a senior at Morton Ranch High School in Katy, TX, on bringing home a gold medal from the University Interscholastic League State Wrestling Championship. William is one of the 28 tal-

ented wrestlers from Katy to qualify for the state tournament.

William is a repeat state champion, finishing his senior year with an impressive record of 51-3. He went undefeated at this year's state tournament, pinning all four of his opponents to capture the gold in the 126 lb. division.

Texas is home to many outstanding athletes, and becoming a state champion is not an easy feat. Becoming one twice is extraordinary. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to recognize William's accomplishment! Our community is proud of William Homalon.

HONORING CLAYTON SHRUGA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Clayton Shrug. Clayton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Clayton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Clayton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Clayton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Clayton Shrug for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CAPTAIN CHARLES R. BURROWS FOR HEROIC ACHIEVEMENT

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present the Navy Commendation Medal to Captain Charles R. Burrows for heroic achievement while serving as an F Division Junior Officer, Secondary Battery Officer, 5th Division Officer, and Senior Officer of the Deck Underway from December 1942 until September 1945.

During his service, Captain Burrows participated in fourteen major operations against the enemy while stationed aboard the USS *Tennessee* in the South Pacific.

As stated by Captain Burrow's commanding officer, John B. Heffernan, Captain Burrows, "by his initiative, perseverance, outstanding ability, and the foresight with which he anticipated developments, he planned, trained, directed, and maintained a secondary battery organization which met the most exacting requirements of the operations in which the USS *Tennessee* participated."

Captain Burrows demonstrated immeasurable heroism during the Saipan and Okinawa campaigns when the USS *Tennessee*

was under continuous heavy attack from opposition battleships as well as kamikaze air attacks.

By his exceptional ability, personal initiative and unwavering dedication to duty, Captain Charles Burrows upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Captain Burrows and thanking him for his courage and his service to our country.

HONORING MR. JIM BRICKER ON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Bricker, who has retired after over fifty years of service in Washington state. Throughout his career, Mr. Bricker has shown a passion for education policy, including serving on the Council for Higher Education, the Office of Financial Management, and the State Senate, where he worked as staff director of Committee Services. His interest in education reached into the classroom, where he spent 38 years teaching as an adjunct professor at the University of Puget Sound and at Pacific Lutheran University.

Serving his country as a colonel in the Marine Corps for 33 years, Mr. Bricker had the distinguished honor of being the Senior Officer in the Northwest for the past five years. His fervor for the integrity of the legislative process helped him play a critical role in major pieces of education legislation, including the founding of Evergreen State College in 1967. He later served in the executive offices of four governors, ending as Governor Gardner's Special Assistant for National Affairs.

For the past 22 years he worked as the Director of Government Affairs at PEMCO Financial Services, where he improved insurance policy. At age 50, Mr. Bricker ran his very first marathon, and continues to cultivate a passion for the outdoors and for physical exercise.

Even in retirement, Mr. Bricker remains dedicated to improving education and will continue to serve as a member of the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. A man of integrity and high principle, his humility and his impact on the state of Washington and on his country will long be remembered.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Bricker for a lifetime of dedicated service.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION—JEFFERSON COUNTY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Colorado State University Extension—Jefferson County for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Colorado State University Extension—Jefferson County.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Colorado State University Extension—Jefferson County for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HONORING MR. JERRY L. SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and self motivated man, Mr. Jerry L. Smith.

Mr. Jerry Smith was born in Hollandale, Mississippi on July 27, 1953 to Rev. C. B. and Hattie Smith. He was reared on a farm. He graduated from Anguilla High School in 1971 and in May 1975 from Mississippi Valley State University with a B. S. Degree in Industrial Technology.

Mr. Smith was enlisted in the U. S. Air Force as a Second Lieutenant from July, 1975 to August, 1978. In 1979, he started working for Asmco as a plant manager for 10 years. He started farming around 1994 and has been farming ever since. His motto is, "In order to make your life better you have to get up each day and strive for that".

Mr. Smith is married to Patsy Smith and to that union they have one child, Nicholas. He is an active member of St. Paul M. B. Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jerry L. Smith.

IN RECOGNITION OF BETH
HUNKAPILLER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Beth Hunkapiller who has been named San Carlos Citizen of the Year for her outstanding and numerous contributions to San Carlos schools and the community at large. Beth is a 20-year veteran of the San Carlos School Board, and has worked tirelessly to ensure that our children have access to a quality education and to outstanding facilities.

Beth was instrumental in creating the San Carlos Charter Learning Center, the first charter school in California. She served as a founding member and chair of the State Board of Education's Advisory Commission on Charter Schools. She also served as the Department of Education's Charter School Division Director. She currently is the chair of the board of directors of Aspire Public Schools, the largest charter school organization in California.

It was Beth's experience as a parent that got her deeply involved in education. She was

a volunteer teacher in her son's co-op nursery school and a Girl Scout Daisy troop coordinator. She later served as Heather PTA president, Heather Fun Day Chair, a member of an Ad Hoc Superintendent Selection Citizen Committee, and a campaign chair for the Committee to Defeat the Voucher.

After her election to the school board in 1993, Beth continued volunteering her time and expertise to the Healthy Cities Tutoring program which strives to help children who struggle to succeed in school. Beth was routinely re-elected by wide margins since 1993.

When it comes to supporting public schools, Beth Hunkapiller is at the head of her class. The San Carlos Education Foundation has been a success in large part because of its amazing volunteer parents, but also in part to one forever parent: Beth Hunkapiller. Year after year, Beth and her husband Mike have been generous donors and have set the standard for philanthropy within any community. But Beth doesn't just write checks. She volunteers for the largest annual fundraiser, Spring Fling, and she lent her credibility as a school board member to volunteer efforts to raise funds from residents and businesses in and around San Carlos. She and her amazing husband, Mike, started "Fund-A-Need" ten years ago, an effort that is emblematic of their vision and generosity. The Hunkapillers have matched donations raised for specific needs such as science equipment, LCD projectors, smart boards, computers, iPads, PE needs, counseling and wellness programs, literacy specialists, calculators, musical instruments, art supplies and teacher development training.

I must also note, Mr. Speaker, that Mike Hunkapiller is an outstanding business leader and that his expertise contributed to modern science being able to efficiently sequence the human genome. It could be said of Beth and Mike that they are a real team. Mike figures out what makes us tick and Beth figures out how to make us tick better, through education.

No mention of Beth's record in education would be complete without mentioning her ceaseless efforts to support bond measures and parcel taxes. Beth is an advocate for fiscal responsibility, and in her role as a trustee, Beth was noted for asking important questions to ensure accountability by the administration for the funds that were raised. Beth realizes that education is the foundation of democracy, and a well-funded education is the foundation of every classroom. In public forums large and small, and literally across decades, Beth has lent tier voice and credibility to the effort to grow the capacity of the district to support new waves of children as they entered the schools.

Mr. Speaker, the schools in San Carlos are bursting at the seams, so much so that many new classrooms will soon be built. Young couples routinely mention the schools as their primary reason for moving into San Carlos. Beth is being named as the Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce, but the local realtors should name her salesperson of the century. The schools of San Carlos are beloved. Beth would be the first to note that it takes a remarkable team of parents and staff and administrators to create outstanding schools, but make no mistake, Beth deserves a fair share of the credit.

The Hunkapillers have raised their two children in San Carlos and their children graduated from Heather, Central, Menlo High School and Stanford. Their grandson now attends the Charter Learning Center. Beth is

also an active member of the San Carlos Rotary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Beth Hunkapiller for her recognition by the Chamber of Commerce as Citizen of the Year. I couldn't think of a more deserving candidate. Beth is a beacon of public service and an inspiration to all of the residents of the City of Good Living, San Carlos, California.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND RE-OPENING OF THE VALLEY RANCH LIBRARY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the completion of the Valley Ranch Library's renovation project. The library has been serving the citizens of Irving, Texas, since 1996 with an amazing collection of books, educational programs, and meeting spaces for community groups.

The history of the Valley Ranch Library begins in 1996 when it established its operations in a rental space no larger than 10,000 square feet. Following its opening, the library quickly became one of the busiest branches in the Irving Public Library system.

In June of 2006, the City of Irving initiated the construction project of a new 26,000 square foot library at 401 Cimarron Trail. In less than two years, the Valley Ranch Library celebrated its new facility at the grand opening ceremony in October of 2007. The new library brought new features to the community such as additional study rooms, public computers, and a café. Of the entire constructed facility, 5,000 square feet was left unfinished for future expansion.

In September of 2012, the citizens of Irving voted on a bond sale to complete the Valley Ranch Library, and in October of 2013, the library renovation project began.

The library expansion included more community meeting spaces, increased shelving by 20%, defined children's areas for a more comfortable experience of all ages, and the addition of a digital media lab.

The Valley Ranch Library is the second busiest and next-largest branch in the Irving Public Library system, after the Central Library. The library's surrounding community is composed of families focused on education; consequently, the library operates to meet and exceed the community's demand for educational resources and programs. The programs are often filled to capacity and patrons are known for maximizing their 50-book limit every three weeks.

Since the establishment of the facility in 2006, the Valley Ranch Library has grown significantly as demonstrated by the following statistics. The library has grown 72% in visitation, 26% in items checked out, 44% in collection size, 40% in reference requests, and 87% in public computer usage.

I am extremely appreciative of the City of Irving and the Irving Public Library system for continuing to address the needs of the community by enhancing the quality of their infrastructure. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my

distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the City of Irving and Irving Public Library on the completion of the Valley Ranch Library's renovation project.

CHASE BANK LAKESIDE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chase Bank Lakeside for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Chase Bank Lakeside.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chase Bank Lakeside for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HONORING ANTHONY V. "TONY" HERZOG

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Anthony Herzog, a member of my staff for the past two years who will be retiring from his position as a District Representative in my Hamlin Constituent Service Center. Tony, what most know him by, started in my office on June 2nd, 2012 and I was eager to put his knowledge and experience to use by helping me serve the people of Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District.

Tony has an extensive public service record including having served as Wayne County Commissioner for 24 years. As commissioner, he was instrumental in numerous projects in Wayne County including, construction of the Wayne County Operations Center, the Wayne County Correctional Facility, and also the Recycling Center. Tony also served as director for the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce and worked to acquire the BL-2 No. 54 Locomotive, a showpiece in Honesdale, while also establishing the Stourbridge Line Rail Excursions.

Tony has also been active in numerous organizations and has held leadership positions in most of them, including: the Honesdale Lions Club, Boy Scouts Troop 1 100th Anniversary, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Wayne County Family Center Board, NEPA Alliance, Wayne County Area Agency on Aging, Wayne County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Wayne County Conservation District and in 1998, Tony was appointed by the Governor to the PennDOT Transportation Advisory Committee. He also served as President of Herzog Trucking Company in Honesdale for 33 years.

Tony's influence can also be found in area sports as he is a strong supporter of both recreational and organized sports in Wayne County. He has been a player, coach, umpire and sponsor as his company, Herzog Trucking Company, sponsored numerous teams throughout the area. He was a member of the volunteer group that built Honesdale High School's first ever football field and bleachers in the 1970's and he assisted in the improvement of the County Sports Complex in Beach Lake, Pennsylvania.

Tony currently resides in Cherry Ridge Township with his wife, Sharon. They have two children: Andrea and Steven and three grand-children: Emma and Brady Herzog and Heather O'Hara.

Words cannot express how thankful I am to have had Tony as a member of my staff and how sad I am going to be to see him go. He has left a lasting impression and he will be truly missed by me, members of my staff, and the people of Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District.

HONORING MANUFACTURING MATTERS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the first graduates of Manufacturing Matters, a fast track training program in Richmond, Indiana.

The collaborative program is being spearheaded by Ivy Tech Community College WorkOne, and the Economic Development Corporations and Chambers of Commerce from Wayne, Rush, and Fayette counties to provide individuals the skills to succeed in the manufacturing industry. I am proud to announce that twelve people became the first graduates of this program on January 31, 2014. The first class includes Jarrod Andrews, Mary Ann Frazier, Bob Harding, Mark Hawkins, Marc Lechuga, Dylan McLemore, Darren McEwen, Rita Robinson, Chris Studt, Randy Tucker, Wilmi Vizcaino, and Kenny Warner.

Manufacturing Matters aims to cultivate a skillset that program participants can apply to future manufacturing jobs. The program provides hardworking individuals the opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of manufacturing processes, safety, quality, and leadership.

In addition to the technical skills learned, the program participants attended a job fair to connect with potential employers. Manufacturing Matters has partnered with several organizations in Indiana from leading energy groups to local governments in an effort to employ the program graduates. The job fair matched employers with applicants who were ready for on-the-job success.

This program equips individuals with the tools to work and provides competent staff to businesses in the manufacturing industry. As a Member of Congress, I strongly support programs like Manufacturing Matters that strengthen the American manufacturing industry.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT
JOSHUA COOMER

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Technical Sergeant Joshua Coomer of Summersville, Missouri for his outstanding achievements and exemplary years of service to our Nation. Technical Sergeant Coomer first enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in May of 1999. During his career he served in two deployments, his first to Kuwait in 2000 and then to Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia in 2002.

On August 1st, 2014, Technical Sergeant will retire from the U.S. Air Force after honorably serving for 15 years. Throughout his career he has been recognized on numerous occasions for his distinguished leadership and commitment to uphold standards. He was named Military Training Leader of the Year in 2005, 2009, 2011, and 2012 in different groups for his outstanding performance in preparing future military personnel.

His superior officers speak very highly of him and I thank Mr. Joshua Coomer for his service to our Nation. It is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING RICKY REGAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ricky Regas, a junior at Cinco Ranch High School, on bringing home a gold medal from the University Interscholastic League State Wrestling Championship. Ricky is one of the 28 talented wrestlers from Katy, TX, to qualify for the state tournament.

Ricky captured this year's gold medal in the 182 lb. bracket after a hard-fought final match. Ricky finished the year with a record of 34-0, an undefeated season. I hope to continue to see great things from Ricky in his senior season.

Texas is home to many outstanding athletes, and becoming a state champion is not an easy feat. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Ricky's accomplishment. Our community is proud of Ricky Regas.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM IN HUNGARY AND AROUND THE WORLD

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Memorial Day for the Victims of Communism in Hungary. On this day in 1947 the Soviet authorities occupying Hungary illegally arrested Bela Kovacs, the general sec-

retary of the Independent Smallholders' Party, who, after being deported to the USSR and spending almost a decade in prison and labor camps died at the early age of 51. The arrest of this fellow Hungarian politician marked a new era in Hungary where the elimination of political opponents soon led to one-party dictatorship, and his fate symbolizes the tragic destiny of hundreds of thousands in Hungary whose rights were denied and whose lives were crushed by the evils of Communism.

As a son of an immigrant from Hungary who fled the same brutal regime that eliminated Bela Kovacs, I know there are few among us who can give a firsthand account of the horrors of the soul-crushing Communist system. It is therefore all the more important that we officially remember the immeasurable damage caused by totalitarian regimes worldwide, and recognize that too many people of influence still subscribe to these same deadly ideas. Nostalgia toward Communism and the whitewashing of history is deplorable, and crimes committed during those times should never fade from our memory.

No leader in Europe today is a more outspoken advocate of remembering the crimes of the Communist system than Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who himself was instrumental in the underground movement that helped bring down Communism in Hungary. Hungary's leadership in facing and condemning its Communist past is exemplary. Hungary was first among the nations of Central and Eastern Europe to institute a memorial day for the Victims of Communism, and soon many nations followed.

The Hungarian Parliament has set out to remove the last vestiges of communism and open a bold new chapter defined by its own history and its own national sovereignty—which was dictated by outsiders for far too long.

Hungary's new Constitution declared that the crimes committed against the Hungarian nation under communist dictatorship has no statute of limitations, and it rejects the authority of the country's communist constitution of 1949—which made a mockery of the rights and freedoms it claimed to enumerate for its people.

Since last December, former victims of the state-party intelligence service now have the right to go public with the names of their surveillance agents and search the formerly closed archives. In a society plagued by the secrets of the Communists' crimes, truth is the only antiseptic, and it is the only source of reconciliation.

Inaugurated by the Orbán government more than decade ago, the House of Terror in Budapest, the former headquarters of the Communist State Police and a place synonymous with the brutalities of the dictatorship, today is one of the most visited museums in the world showcasing the everyday horrors of a dictatorial regime.

Overcoming the damages caused by 45 years of totalitarian Communism is not easy, but Hungarians are on the right path. In an era of political correctness which too often refuses to shame the shameful and to elevate selfless heroes, Hungary's leadership should be applauded.

COLORADO COMMUNITY MEDIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Colorado Community Media for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Colorado Community Media.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Colorado Community Media for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HONORING MARK ALLAN SEGAL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Allan Segal, one of the founding fathers of the gay rights movement and possibly the person most responsible for bringing national attention to that group's quest for acceptance and respectability.

By the age of eighteen Mark was an activist and founded Gay Youth, the nation's first organization to deal with the issues of gay teens and endangered LGBT youth. Then, realizing the gay community needed to be brought out into the open, Mark created the Gay Raiders and took his fight national by breaking into television newscasts and nationally broadcast live programs, always espousing gay rights. These break-ins were known as "zaps" and succeeded in making people aware of a part of our society that did not have equal rights under the law. The last known "zap" was one that took place on the CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite, and strange as it seems, Mark Segal and Walter Cronkite became and remained friends until Mr. Cronkite's passing in July of 2009.

Mark founded the Pride of Philadelphia Election in 1989 to build a coalition of gay activists and allies. He raised over \$30,000 during the primary, waging a television ad campaign to defeat then City Councilman Francis Rafferty in order to elect allies to Philadelphia City Council, including then candidate for Mayor, Ed Rendell. Mark was also instrumental in obtaining funding from the late Congressman Thomas Foglietta in order to purchase a permanent home for the William Way LGBT Community Center, located in the heart of Philadelphia's "Gayborhood".

Mark is the founder of the Philadelphia Gay News and has become a respected journalist with his newspaper winning numerous awards. He is a tireless champion for his community making it his duty to make people understand

and respond to the issues at hand, never quitting the fight. And now, his latest project of bringing affordable housing to an aging gay population has reached fruition. The John C. Anderson Apartments, named for a Philadelphia City Councilman who died of AIDS in 1983, is now open. It is the first senior citizen housing project built by and for the LGBT community in Pennsylvania and only the third of its type in the United States. This is housing where gay tenants will feel comfortable living in a community that will not discriminate against them. But also, like the senior complexes built by Christian, Jewish and Chinese groups, this housing will be open to any eligible senior in need.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mark Segal for being at the forefront of a fight still taking place today. He is an outstanding example of unwavering commitment to equal rights, and we should all be thankful for his tireless dedication and determination.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY GILMORE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community are exceptional. Temecula has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Terry Gilmore is one of these individuals. On February 22, 2014, Terry was honored as the 2013 "Citizen of the Year" award recipient at the Temecula Chamber of Commerce Installation and Awards Gala.

Terry was born and raised in the thriving city of St. Louis, Missouri, as one of four children to parents with a blue collar background. Like them, Terry never went on to attend college, but instead gained his keen business sense from working at a bowling alley starting at a very young age. Terry developed his love for the sport of bowling while clearing out the pins at the back of the lanes and often earned free games as payment. As a youth, Terry became one of the top 10 amateur bowlers in the country.

The joy Terry found in bowling was put on hold when he received a draft card for Vietnam in 1966. He served his country proudly for over a year as an infantry radio operator. Immediately after returning from the war, Terry found that he was willing to move just about anywhere to follow his dreams. With \$702 dollars in his pocket and a brand new Corvette, Terry moved from his hometown of St. Louis out west to the sunny city of Phoenix, Arizona for a new start.

Though Phoenix was still a very small town at the time of his move, Terry found his way in to a job at the local Dodge dealership, Scottsdale Dodge. Not only did he find passion in the job, but he also found love when he met a sales associate, named Cindy, who would eventually become his wife. Terry's commitment showed itself early in his career. He was the first to pick up extra shifts on weekends and holidays, all the while saving

up to provide for his wife and family. He moved up within the dealership and soon decided to take a huge risk by moving out to Ventura, California in 1983 to get more experience in the automotive industry. Terry landed a job with Robert Gregory at Paradise Chevrolet, where his success eventually led him to take on the role as General Manager.

A mere eight years later, Robert Gregory was given the opportunity to open a new Chevrolet dealership in the then-small town of Temecula, California, and invited Terry to buy in as his partner. With hard work and dedication, Terry became the sole owner of Paradise Chevrolet after 20 years. Terry's attitude for success created a thriving business that earned him the "Chevrolet Dealer of the Year Award" for the entire United States in 2010.

It is hard to imagine that Terry would have any free time on his hands, yet he has always found time for his community. From Copy for Kids, serving in Chamber positions, and helping local Veterans, Terry truly has had a hand in developing organizations and groups that make our community great. He found his true calling, however, through the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest County. For over 20 years, Terry has helped the non-profit reach their fundraising goals, and currently serves on the Board of Directors, more specifically the Emeritus Board of Distinction. When asked why he remains so involved in these organizations, Terry stated, "There is nothing more valuable than your time, so I decided to give mine."

In his spare time, Terry enjoys spending time with his wife of over 30 years, their daughter who attends San Diego State University, and his daughter from a previous marriage, who still lives in St. Louis.

Considering all that Terry has done for the city of Temecula, the Temecula Chamber of Commerce named him their 2013 "Citizen of the Year." Terry's tireless passion for service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community. He has been the heart and soul of many organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many individuals are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

HONORING THE EDDIE WASHINGTON CENTER FOR 20 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE IN LAKE COUNTY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Eddie Washington Center for Men in Waukegan, Illinois, the largest city in the district I represent, has been helping men rise for 20 years in Lake County.

In 1993, Township Supervisor Patricia Jones united her community to renovate an old fire station and establish the Eddie Washington Center, a transitional home for adult men struggling with homelessness.

Taking a holistic approach, the Eddie Washington Center seeks to break the persistent cycle of homelessness and offer a hand up and push forward to the men who seek help.

Stressing the spirit of giving back to the community, residents of the center offer services while learning skills to promote an independent, successful life. Some of these services further contribute to our community, including snow removal and lawn care for local seniors.

In addition to offering a safe, clean and nurturing resident environment, the Eddie Washington Center offers counseling, mentoring, vocational training and much more to effect positive change.

Homelessness is a stubborn condition, one that is incredibly difficult to break. The goal of the Eddie Washington Center, through hard work and innovative methods, is to break that lifestyle and set residents on a sustainable, positive path forward.

February is Black History Month, honoring the contributions and commitments of African American leaders to communities throughout the country. So too, let us honor the work of the staff and volunteers at the Eddie Washington Center. These dedicated men and women have devoted their time and energies to their community. Their example is one we can all follow, and their success with the Eddie Washington Center is something we can all celebrate.

Congratulations and thank you to the Eddie Washington Center on 20 remarkable years.

HONORING THE AHISKA TURKS

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress from Ohio, I am proud of my state's diversity and the many cultures that make it such a great place to live.

One of the more active ethnic groups in Ohio is the Ahiska Turks, who are represented by the Ahiska Turkish American Community Center (ATACC). When the United States offered P-2 refugee status to this distinct minority group in Russia, to those who faced religious and ethnic persecution by the Russians, roughly 12,000 Ahiska Turks came to our country, and settled in Ohio, Illinois, Georgia, Idaho, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, Missouri, Kentucky, Florida, Texas, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

Those who created new lives in Ohio learned English, established small businesses, educated their children, and revitalized neighborhoods. They invested over \$30 million just in north Dayton alone, where dilapidated houses were transformed into an oasis of middle class dwellings. For example, the Dayton Community Center was a dying building which they bought and renovated. It now not only houses Ahiska Turkish American Community Center events, but it is also a flourishing neighborhood preschool.

Ahiska Turks are living the American dream not only in my state, but also around the country. In their efforts to open shops, and establish businesses in transportation and construction, for example, they have successfully accomplished what we often talk about here in Congress—they have created jobs.

But while these fortunate Ahiska Turks now live better and more prosperous lives here in the U.S., the lives of the Ahiska Turks in Russia are very different. Their children are segregated in schools and told they can never

"catch up" or integrate with their Russian counterparts. They continue to face widespread persecution and live under discriminatory laws. However, if these same people thrive once they come to the United States, and their children excel in school, then there is little doubt that the environment of hostility and discrimination in which they live in Russia is what is keeping them from meeting their real potential in that country.

As a result, I call on the State Department to restart the P-2 program so that those Ahiska Turks who continue to face persecution in Russia can come to the United States and rejoin their families. Ohio has benefited from their hard work, dedication, and family values. This program was a blessing for these wonderful people, and it was a good deal for the United States.

CHARLES CHURCH MCKAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Charles Church McKay for his induction into the Jefferson County Business Hall of Fame.

Charlie is an outstanding member of the Jefferson County Business Community where he manages the development of residential and commercial real estate projects. His major ventures include the Rockwell International Training Center, the Church Ranch Corporate Center, the Smart Reservoir Expansion Project and the Candelas project in Arvada.

Additionally, Charlie serves on many community boards, offering his expertise to such organizations as the Jefferson County Economic Council board, the Northwest Metro Chamber of Commerce and Transportation Management Organization. He is the Chairman of Denver Boulder Corridor Marketing Coalition, the Historical Mandalay Community Center, Inc., the Broomfield Economic Development Council and the Founder and Chairman of Jefferson Center Metropolitan District.

Charlie and his family celebrate a rich Colorado legacy dating back to 1857, and I am pleased to see him continue a tradition of excellence. I extend my deepest congratulations to Mr. McKay for his well-deserved recognition from the Jefferson County Business Community.

RECOGNIZING THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 22nd anniversary of the Khojaly massacre in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Khojaly, once the home to 7,000 people, was the site of the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians in the course of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. On February 25, 1992, Armenian armed forces descended on Khojaly killing 613 people, of which 106 were

women and 83 were children. Fifty-six people were reported to have been killed with extreme cruelty and torture. In addition, 1,275 people were taken hostage, 150 went missing and 487 people became disabled. Also according to records that have been maintained, 76 of the victims were teenagers, 8 families were wiped out and 25 children lost both of their parents while 130 lost one of their parents.

The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable. Today, the Nagorno-Karabakh region is under Armenian occupation, and this year's anniversary serves to remind us of the need to redouble efforts to help resolve the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. As the U.S., Russia and France are co-chairs of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) Minsk Group, which is charged with finding a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, we all must work diligently to bring about a swift end to this ongoing conflict.

The United States and Azerbaijan enjoy a strong partnership based on shared strategic interests. Our countries share many values, including a vision for greater diversity and tolerance as well as respect for minorities and gender rights. We have worked together to prevent the spread of extremism and Azerbaijan's vital contribution to the U.S.-led operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosovo cannot be understated. The United States, along with our European allies, also recognize Azerbaijan's leadership role in bringing stability to energy markets in the region and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is a strong ally and friend of the United States in a strategically important and complex region of the world. As Azerbaijanis around the world observe this painful chapter in their country's history and remember lost loved ones, let us remember our support of peaceful efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and reforms that promote regional stability. I ask my colleagues to join me and our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the tragedy that befell the town of Khojaly.

HONORING COMMANDER DON FINNEGAN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Commander Don Finnegan from Muncie, Indiana.

Commander Finnegan is the State Director of Honor and Remember. This organization preserves the memory of those who have died to protect our freedom and presents personalized flags to families who have lost a loved one in service for our country.

In April of 2002, Commander Finnegan joined the Sons of American Veterans as a Chaplain at the Squadron level. Due to his participation in Sons of AMVETS, Mr. Finnegan became involved with an organization called Honor and Remember, and is now Indiana's first State Director.

In addition to Sons of AMVETS and Honor and Remember, Mr. Finnegan has served his community for the last 24 years in the volun-

teer fire services as well as the past 15 years as a member of Red Cross Disaster Services.

Commander Finnegan's character and example of service has impacted his family. Both of his sons, Shane and Ryan, have served in the Military as well as his daughter-in-law.

Men and women like Commander Finnegan deserve recognition for the service they provide to their communities and to our veterans. I am proud of the work Commander Finnegan has done for the state of Indiana.

CONGRATULATING CHRISTIAN MARTINEZ

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christian Martinez, a senior at Katy High School, on bringing home a gold medal from the University Interscholastic League State Wrestling Championship. Christian is one of the 28 talented wrestlers from Katy, TX to qualify for the state tournament.

Christian, who took home a silver medal in 2013, captured this year's gold medal in the 132 lb. bracket after a hard-fought final match. Christian is the 10th state champion wrestler to come from Katy High School.

Texas is home to many outstanding athletes, and becoming a state champion is not an easy feat. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Christian's accomplishment! Our community is proud of Christian Martinez.

HONORING NICOLE MICHELE HINES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, rise to honor the memory of Nicole Michele Hines, a woman who lived more life in her 38 years than most will live in a lifetime, and is remembered for stating, "My PASSION is greater than your power!"

Her advocacy for women's rights, fatherhood, community uplift and the foundation of family were just a few of the areas she fought for. Her association with organizations such as Holy Redeemer Health System's Project Rainbow/Drueding Center and the Women's Community Revitalization Project landed her prestigious spots on their boards and various committees. She lived and fought for the educational rights of her own children, Naim and Aminah, and for a village of others.

Nicole was a tireless champion for her community, always willing to serve in whatever capacity was needed, devoting endless hours to politics at both the city and state levels. She was elected Committee Woman for the 49th Ward, 5th Division, and worked diligently to help further the community's improvement and redevelopment. She was a strong supporter of the Logan CDC, serving as an active member of their Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and was actively involved in many organizations, among them but not limited to, the

Philadelphia Center for Art and Technology, Philadelphia Assisting Communities, the Community Women's Education Project and the Northwest Community Coalition for Youth. Her final project was advocating for the rights of fatherhood and the family as a united front, helping in the creation of the Father's Heart and Legacy Empowerment Center.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering this extraordinary woman who has touched the lives of so many and has left behind a wealth of knowledge and a glowing legacy. She made it her duty to make people understand and respond to the issues at hand and would want all of us to continue her fight.

TRIBUTE TO GERRY AND ROSIE WILSON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two individuals whose ongoing dedication and contributions to the community of Temecula, California have been exceptional. Temecula has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Gerry and Rosie Wilson are two of these individuals. On February 22, 2014, Gerry and Rosie were honored as the "Lifetime Achievement Award" recipients at the Temecula Chamber of Commerce Installation and Awards Gala for all that they have done.

Born and raised in the heart of the Midwest, Rosie and Gerry came from humble beginnings. This foundation instilled quality values in the pair that are exemplified to this day. It was almost fate that Rosie and Gerry met one day on a train. She was on her way home to Iowa to celebrate Christmas with her family after having set up a cerebral palsy clinic in Boise, Idaho and he sat down across from her. Not too shortly after, they were walking down the wedding aisle, ready to begin their life together. In a matter of two and a half years, the pair had adopted a child and given birth to three more. Their children became their top priorities.

As their children grew older, however, the Wilson's aspirations grew bigger. At their children's suggestion, the couple began to consider opening a winery. Gerry had never been known as a big risk taker; in fact, he made his living as a financial advisor. He was careful to consider every aspect of this huge investment that may have required their entire life savings. After happening upon Temecula, California in 1996, Gerry and Rosie became convinced that this was the right move for them and their dream became a reality when they purchased a small winery named Wilson Creek Winery that same year.

In 1997, Gerry and Rosie's three children and their families picked up and moved to Temecula to begin working alongside their parents at the winery, which officially opened its tasting room doors in 2000. The family's values have contributed immensely to the success of the business. It is evident that each individual contributes a certain expertise to the

day-to-day operations of the winery, creating a dynamic business model.

The Wilson's hard work and dedication have grown Wilson Creek Winery into an incredible business over the years. They have single-handedly created 20 fulltime, and 30 part time jobs. Today, the winery spans 90 acres from which they sell over 30,000 cases of wine each year. 1,000 visitors a weekend walk through the tasting room doors to experience the ambiance and wine the couple has worked so hard to create. For all of the growth and success Gerry and Rosie have contributed to Temecula, the Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce awarded the winery "Gold Business of the Year" for 2004.

Not only have Rosie and Gerry contributed tremendously to the economic growth of the city, but they have always made sure to also give back to their community. Every year, the couple hosts a variety of charity events at Wilson Creek Winery, bringing in hundreds of thousands of dollars to help local organizations and individuals in need. In 2004, The Wilsons hosted a benefit for families affected by a wildfire that came within two miles of the winery, raising \$40,000 in one night. More recently, they have hosted fundraisers for the Junior Diabetes Foundation, Special Olympics, Rotary International, Alzheimer's research, and a local animal shelter.

The Wilson's tireless passion for service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Temecula, California. I am proud to call Gerry and Rosie fellow community members, Americans and friends. I know that many individuals are grateful for their service and salute them as they receive this well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award.

CONGRATULATING CALEB HUFF, NAVSEA SAILOR OF THE YEAR

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Navy Diver 1st Class Caleb Huff for his service to our nation and on receiving the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) 2013 Active Duty Sailor of the Year.

Caleb is based with the Navy Experimental Dive Unit located in Panama City, Florida. The mission of his unit is to develop solutions to enhance and improve manned operations in undersea and other extreme environments through biomedical research and testing and evaluating equipment and procedures.

Caleb was one of nine contenders selected from NAVSEA enlisted sailors to compete for the 2013 Active Duty Sailor of the Year. He won this tremendous honor after being interviewed by the NAVSEA committee over a five-day competition.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Caleb's family. His wife, Emily, and son, Mason, cheered him on as he competed for this honor and continue to provide him with support at home.

I am honored to recognize Caleb Huff for his service to our nation and on being awarded the NAVSEA 2013 Active Duty Sailor of the Year.

BANDIMERE SPEEDWAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bandimere Speedway for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Bandimere Speedway.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bandimere Speedway for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

RECOGNIZING FLORIDA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Florida Business Development Corporation for their contributions to the Central Florida business community.

Organized in 1989, Florida Business Development Corporation has grown to be the second most active Certified Development Company in the United States. The company works with private lenders to provide businesses with long-term, affordable financing that allows them to grow more quickly. Florida Business Development Corporation recently constructed a new building to accommodate its expansion, creating new employment opportunities for local residents and strengthening the economy.

Business development is essential to growing local economies and keeping hard-working Floridians employed. I commend Florida Business Development Corporation for their work to assist healthy, growing small businesses in Central Florida, and I wish them continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL CALLAGY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Callagy for his 29 years of exemplary service at the San Mateo Police Department, the last seven as Deputy Chief. He has been a tireless and effective advocate to enhance the relationship between the police and the community.

During his long career, Deputy Chief Callagy has supervised every unit in the department. He was assigned to investigations,

field operations, the special operations unit, the street crimes suppression team, robbery, the homicide and sexual assault unit, vice and narcotics, persons crimes investigator, property crimes investigator, community services, support services, SWAT, hostage negotiator, field training officer, oversight of public information officer, technology-related projects, narcotics unit, traffic enforcement, neighborhood response team, reserves and K-9 programs, major criminal investigations, internal affairs, crime analysis, communications, and records. In 2012, distressed by the high rate of recidivism, Deputy Chief Callagy formed the domestic violence unit to end the cycle of violence. As you can surmise from this long list, there isn't a task or field Deputy Chief Callagy can't tackle; however, narcotics and undercover work remain his specialty.

Michael Callagy was born in San Francisco and grew up in Daly City. He graduated from Serra High School in 1980. He earned a Masters in Public Administration from Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont and a law degree from Santa Clara University. In 2010, he received his Masters in Homeland Security and Defense from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. He is a member of the California State Bar and a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

The efficiency and effectiveness of Deputy Chief Callagy's work has been widely recognized. He received awards from the San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association, San Mateo County Gang Task Force, Governor Gray Davis' School Safety Wireless Phone Program, Avoid the 23, and San Mateo Police Activities League. The San Mateo Police Department awarded him the Gordon Joinville Special Merit Award for his leadership in developing youth services and programs. The District Attorney's Office has commended him for his outstanding skills in investigating and solving crimes.

Deputy Chief Callagy and his wife Lisa are the proud parents of four children, Brianna, Ryan, Shannon and Kevin.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Chief Callagy's commitment to keep our communities safe has earned him the admiration and adoration of residents and his colleagues alike. While he will be deeply missed by the San Mateo Police Department, he will continue to serve and protect the residents of San Mateo County in his new role as Deputy County Manager. I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an outstanding public servant and first-class police officer.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONSERVATION TRUST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust for receiving accreditation by the National Land Trust Accreditation Commission. The accreditation process is very rigorous and signifies the highest standards of excellence in land conservation.

When Congress first passed the tax incentives for land conservation, it placed a high degree of trust in non-profit land trusts to man-

age these transactions properly. Over the years, land conservation has become increasingly complex and requires careful adherence to the national Land Trust Standards and Practices. This accreditation process helps give taxpayers confidence that land trusts are a worthy public investment.

I want to thank the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust for its dedication and effectiveness in educating the public about the importance of conservation and preserving local natural areas, trails, streams, and parks. Its work helps to protect wildlife habitat, water quality and healthy communities. Since its founding 20 years ago, the Trust has protected 5,370 acres across Northern Virginia. And, by achieving national accreditation, the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust has expanded its capacity to accomplish this mission far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust for its hard work and commitment to our community. I wish the Trust and its supporters continued success in their conservation efforts.

TASTY BAKING COMPANY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tasty Baking Company, better known as TASTYKAKE, as it celebrates its 100th Birthday today. Since TASTYKAKE was formed, it has been an integral ingredient to the great city of Philadelphia, as well as surrounding areas along the East Coast.

TASTYKAKE was founded in 1914 by baker Philip J. Baur and egg salesman Herbert T. Morris. The brand name was originally conceptualized by Morris' wife commenting on how she found the duo's baked goods to be "tasty." Starting in a small bakery in Philadelphia, and only using the finest and freshest of ingredients, the company quickly became a phenomenon.

TASTYKAKE, a wholly owned subsidiary of Flowers Foods, Inc., is a success story not only for Philadelphia, but for our nation as a whole. The company employs thousands, has multiple production locations in Philadelphia and Chester County, and contributes everyday to the success of America. From honey buns to chocolate bells, cupcakes to donuts, thousands of citizens are enriched by these tasty baked goods. TASTYKAKE is memorializing this special event by serving their goods to those who serve the citizens of Philadelphia, including local charities, police and fire departments, and customers. This act conceptualizes the American dream: that through hard work and dedication, everybody has a chance to make their dream succeed.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Tasty Baking Company and offering our thanks to the company that has made many of our lives much sweeter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. LESLIE M. COLLINS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Dr. Leslie M. Collins, a lifelong educator, writer, and academic. Dr. Collins was a well respected professor who was always available to guide his students as they embarked on their careers. I was deeply saddened to hear of his passing this week.

For more than 50 years, Dr. Collins taught English and African-American literature at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. Even after his retirement in 1979, he continued to teach several courses every year for nearly three decades. His dedication to education speaks for itself.

A graduate of Dillard University, Dr. Collins was awarded an M.A. from Fisk University in 1937 and a doctorate from Western Reserve University's Department of American Culture in 1945. His studies of the relationships between the peoples of the world through literature took him across the globe, to the Universities of Havana, Oslo, Florence and Madrid, as well as Africa, Europe, and the Mediterranean.

In 1945, Dr. Collins joined the English Department at Fisk University, where he taught courses ranging from Composition to Black Literature, Milton, and the Harlem Renaissance. For nearly 50 years, he reviewed books for the Nashville Tennessean, and in 1990, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Fisk University. The same year, his work One Hundred Years of Fisk Presidents was published, and later, his poem the Creole Girl was set to music and performed by the Black Music Repertory Ensemble of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, we have lost a great academic and a gifted educator. Dr. Collins dedicated his life to reviving students' relationships with literature, and I feel blessed to have known him as a mentor. This week, my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends, the Fisk University community, and the countless students whose lives he undeniably touched.

COMMENDING JIM BROWNE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jim Browne, the Director of Parks and Recreation for my hometown of Sugar Land, Texas, on being named the East Region 2014 Director of the Year by The Texas Recreation and Park Society, TRAPS. Browne was recognized by TRAPS for his professional leadership, public service and efforts to improve quality of life in Sugar Land.

Browne has worked to enhance Sugar Land by opening numerous parks and community centers as well as expanding the city's already award winning special events. Under Browne's leadership, Sugar Land opened the Imperial Park Recreation Center, doubled program

space for senior citizens at the recently renovated T.E. Harman Center and opened the first phase of the Sugar Land Memorial Park. These are just a few of the accomplishments Browne has achieved during his 35 year career in parks and recreation management.

On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, it's an honor to recognize Browne's commitment to the Sugar Land community. Congratulations Mr. Browne, on earning this recognition for your valued work and thank you for helping to create a community that the Sugar Land residents are proud to call home.

240 UNION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud 240 Union for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like 240 Union.

I extend my deepest congratulations to 240 Union for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,411,178,036,656.28. We've added \$6,784,300,987,743.20 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

REGARDING THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, since declaring its independence from the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan has been a reliable friend and valuable ally of the United States. For this reason, it seems appropriate for Congress to commemorate the victims of the Khojaly tragedy as the Azerbaijani people mark the anniversary of this event.

Since the early 1990s, Azerbaijan has been involved in a conflict with its neighbor to the West, Armenia. The Khojaly tragedy was the single worst day in this conflict, resulting in hundreds of lives lost, families devastated, and the town destroyed. Given our deepening ties with Azerbaijan, it is important for Americans to remember this event.

A cease-fire was negotiated in 1994, but the conflict remains unresolved. I remain confident a resolution will be found. The United States is serving as a co-chair to the Minsk Group, along with France and Russia. Together these three nations are working to facilitate a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

The anniversary of this horrible tragedy is an appropriate time to honor the victims of these atrocities and reflect on the need for all parties to work together to bring a swift end to this conflict. I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate this tragedy.

CONGRATULATING PASTOR H. LEE JORDAN, JR. ON HIS FOURTH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY AND HONORING HIM FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Pastor H. Lee Jordan, Jr. on the occasion of his fourth Pastoral Anniversary with Greater Faith Church—Baptist (GFC) in Waukegan, Illinois, part of the district I represent.

Pastor Jordan assumed leadership of the GFC in January 2010, and since then, he has built upon the church's already outstanding legacy. Pastor Jordan's dedication and passion fill the community with joy, spreading a message of faith, integrity and community action.

In words and deeds, Pastor Jordan encourages his congregation to give back and enrich the community. Throughout his four years in Waukegan, Pastor Jordan has become a central figure in the community and an important voice of hope.

A spirited and inquisitive soul, Pastor Jordan consistently stresses the importance of never settling, of constantly seeking spiritual and personal growth. Anything is possible with the right attitude, and Pastor Jordan demonstrates to all the power of this message.

Pastor Jordan's example reaches far beyond his stirring sermons and moving songs. A husband, father, community leader and musician, he sets a daily example for his congregation and community.

In my visits to GFC, I have been moved by Pastor Jordan's passion, care and joy. His vision and discipline to follow that vision are rare and remarkably valuable to his congregation and community.

Pastor Jordan's commitment to his congregation and to Waukegan inspires everyone around him. Our communities are stronger with passionate, dedicated and visionary leaders like Pastor Jordan. I congratulate him on four years with GFC and thank him for his outstanding work.

HONORING 2013 "MR. AMIGO" MARIANA SEOANE GARCÍA

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Charro Days Fiesta and commend the 2013 "Mr. Amigo," recently chosen by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, TX, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico.

Mariana Seoane García has been selected as the 2013 "Mr. Amigo." A multi-talented Mexican actress, model, and singer, her style and charisma have won the hearts and minds of audiences across the world. In addition to her work as a performer, Ms. Seoane García has given back to her community, for example by participating in Univision's Teletón USA (USA Telethon) to raise money for children's healthcare. She is a wonderful choice to represent the spirit of friendship.

Beginning in 1964, the "Mr. Amigo" award is an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen who has made a lasting contribution during the previous year to international solidarity and goodwill. "Mr. Amigo" acts as an ambassador between the United States and Mexico and presides over the annual Charro Days Fiesta.

Charro Days dates back to 1937, when the citizens of Brownsville organized the event in the midst of the Great Depression to celebrate the cultural heritage shared between Brownsville and its sister city, Matamoros, Tamaulipas, across the border in Mexico. The first Charro Days celebration featured a parade with horse-drawn floats and participants dressed in traditional Mexican costumes reminiscent of charros, or Mexican cowboys.

From these humble beginnings, Charro Days has evolved into a multi-day event which includes dances, fiestas, a children's parade, and the Grand International Parade drawing an estimated 50,000 participants annually from Texas and Mexico.

The 77th annual Charro Days celebration commenced on February 23rd, with a grito, or celebratory yell. Later this week, the Mayor of Brownsville and the Mayor of Matamoros will meet at the Gateway International Bridge and extend their hands across the border to symbolize the friendship between the two cities.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor the Charro Days Fiesta and for joining me in recognizing the importance of this annual celebration which continues to strengthen the relationship between Brownsville and Matamoros, as well as the United States and Mexico.

THE WORLDWIDE PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I chaired a subcommittee hearing on the persecution of Christians worldwide, a topic which has been neglected by our media and world leaders—including those in the United States.

The focus on anti-Christian persecution was not meant to minimize the suffering of other religious minorities who are imprisoned or killed for their beliefs: as the poet John Donne wrote, "Any man's death doth diminish me."

We stand for human dignity and respect for life from the womb to the tomb, and the subcommittee has and will continue to highlight the suffering of religious minorities around the globe, be they Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan, Ba'hai in Iran, Buddhists in occupied Tibet, Yazidis in Iraq or the Muslim Rohingya people in Burma.

Christians, however, remain the most persecuted religious group the world over, and thus deserve the special attention that the hearing gave them. As one of the hearing witnesses, the distinguished journalist John Allen has written: "Christians today indisputably are the most persecuted religious body on the planet, and too often their martyrs suffer in silence."

Researchers from the Pew Center have documented incidents of harassment of religious groups worldwide—a term defined as including "physical assaults; arrests and detentions; desecration of holy sites; and discrimination against religious groups in employment, education and housing"—and has concluded that Christians are the single most harassed group today. In the year 2012, Pew reports, Christians were harassed in 110 countries around the world.

This is particularly true in the Middle East where, as one of those heard from, Archbishop Francis Chullikatt, has said, "flagrant and widespread persecution of Christians rages. . . even as we meet."

Archbishop Chullikatt was the papal nuncio to Iraq, where we have seen repeated violent assaults on Christians, such as the October 31, 2010 assault upon Our Lady of Deliverance Syrian Catholic Cathedral in Baghdad in which 58 people were killed and another 70 wounded. Attacks such as this have led the Christian population of Iraq—whose roots date back to the time of the Apostles—to dwindle from 1.4 million in 1987 prior to the first Gulf War, to as little as 150,000 today, according to some estimates. Much of this exodus has occurred during a time in which our country invested heavily in blood and treasure in seeking to help Iraqis build a democracy. As we witness the black flag of al-Qaeda again fly over cities such as Fallujah, which we had won at the cost of so much American blood, we wonder how it is that for Christians in Iraq, life appears to be worse now than it was under the vicious dictator Saddam Hussein.

If we turn to Egypt, we see a Christian population which dates back to the Apostle St. Mark also being oppressed. At a hearing we had last December 10—Human Rights Day—we heard how churches have been subjected to mob attacks and burned. For example, in April of 2012, St. Mark's Cathedral, seat of the Coptic Pope, was attacked by 30–40 Muslim youths. While dozens of Copts were sheltering inside, security forces joined the mob. Rather than dispersing the crowd, they participated in the all-night attack or stood idly by as rocks, gasoline bombs, and gas canisters were lobbed into the iconic cathedral.

Likewise, last year the subcommittee held a hearing on persecution of religious minorities in Syria. Syria had been a place of relative tolerance for religious minorities in the Middle East, including groups like the Mandeans, who

trace their roots to the time of John the Baptist and whom they still revere.

It is this connection with the past which has helped bring radical Islamists to Syria, where not only do they seek to overthrow a violent dictator—Bashar al-Assad, but also seek to eradicate Christianity from the land.

Last September, members of al-Nusra, an al-Qaeda linked group, attacked the town of Malula. Why this is significant is because Malula is a living link with the time of Christ, a Christian village in Syria where Aramaic, the language of Jesus, is still spoken. It is for this reason that Malula was targeted—in the words of one of those attacking this small village whose way of life had remained largely unchanged over the centuries, the Mujahadeen are seeking to "conquer the capital of the Crusaders." Such is the perspective of one whose vision has been distorted by hatred.

But it is not just in the Middle East where we see the persecution of Christians.

I would like to recall one story of one man I met, first in Jos, Nigeria, and then in Washington when we held a hearing on the terror group, Boko Haram last October. It was in the face of this one man that I was able to witness the face of the persecuted Church, which indeed is also the face of Christ.

Habila Adamu is a businessman from Yobe State in northern Nigeria. On the night of November 28, 2012, masked gunmen armed with AK-47 entered his home. They told his wife to leave, as they were here to "do the work of Allah."

The questioning began.

"Are you a policeman?"

"No."

"Are you a Nigerian soldier?"

"No."

"Are you a Christian?"

"Yes."

They then asked him why he has not accepted Islam, when he has heard the message of Muhammad.

He replied that "I am a Christian. We are also preaching the gospel of the true God to you and to other people who do not yet know God."

They then asked, "Habila, Are you ready to die as a Christian?"

"I am ready to die as a Christian."

They asked him again, "Are you ready to die as a Christian?"

He replied, "I am ready. . ." And before he had closed his mouth, a bullet ripped through him.

You can see the exit point of the wound in the photo before you. . .

How many of us, who profess Christ, would have been able to stare martyrdom in the face and refuse to renounce Christ?

Habila Adamu, by the grace of God, survived. The term "hero" is one thrown around loosely these days, but he is a hero of his faith.

And there are many more like him. We heard stories from around the world, where Christians are under attack simply for the beliefs they profess. We heard witnesses discuss persecution in places such as Burma, Vietnam, Eritrea, even in this hemisphere.

According to some estimates, China is on track to become the largest Christian nation in the world, though numbers are hard to pin down, because most of these Christians remain underground and cannot worship freely.

As US Commission on International Freedom Commissioner Elliott Abrams points out,

independent Protestants and Catholics continue to face persecution for refusing to affiliate with government-approved religious groups. Protestant "house church" groups that refuse to join the state-approved Protestant religious organization are deemed illegal and experience harassment, fines, detentions, and imprisonment. Approximately 900 Protestants were detained in the past year for conducting public worship activities. Seven Protestant leaders also were imprisoned for terms exceeding one year. The Chinese Government issued a directive to "eradicate" unregistered Protestant churches over the next ten years, including through force. Police have embraced the plan, raiding meetings, seeking to break up large churches that previously operated openly, and detaining religious leaders.

The Chinese Government continues to appoint Bishops without Vatican approval and place them in leadership positions, setting back Vatican-Beijing relations. Dozens of Catholic clergy, including three Bishops, remain in detention, in home confinement, under surveillance, or disappeared. Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin, the Auxiliary Bishop of Shanghai, has been missing since he publicly announced his resignation from the state-approved Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association in June 2012. Bishop James Su Zhimin, arrested in 1996 while participating in a religious procession and convicted of QUOTE "unregistered religious activity"—in other words for remaining loyal to the Catholic Church, and not the State-authorized Church. Bishop Su has not been heard of since his arrest, and the Chinese government has repeatedly rebuffed inquiries as to his condition.

In Vietnam, to name one of these countries, churches are forced to register, and worship outside of State-authorized churches is forbidden. Christian ethnic minorities, such as the Hmong and Montagnard, are allowed to exist in uneasy tension with the governing authorities, knowing that the heavy hand of the state could stop their worship at any time. Vietnam's Catholics, both clergy and laity, fill Vietnam's jails as prisoners of conscience, for calling the government to account to a higher law than that of arbitrary dictates. The attack on a Catholic funeral procession in the village of Con Dau in 2010 resulted in more than 100 villagers injured, 62 arrested, five tortured, and at least three deaths; this should remind one of the brutality that Christians in Vietnam face.

And I mention Vietnam because now, in secrecy, negotiations are being held over the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Vietnam seeks entry, and if we focus on the utility and profits of increased trade without holding Vietnam to account for its human rights record, we miss an opportunity to better the lives of those who are beaten, imprisoned and even killed for their faith.

HONORING BROWNSVILLE LEADERS BOB AND RACHEL TORRES

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend two outstanding individuals who have dedicated more than 50 years to the communities of Brownsville, Texas and

Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico through their work with the Mr. Amigo Association.

Since the founding of the Mr. Amigo Association in 1963, Bob and Rachel Torres have both pledged time and effort to strengthen the relationship and promote the rich culture between these bordering cities.

Mr. Torres began his work in Mr. Amigo Association in 1964 as a member of the Board of Directors and went on to serve as the vice-president, and president of the entire organization in addition to chairing the Mr. Amigo Selection Committee. He stayed involved, serving as a master of ceremonies, consultant, and liaison between the association and its activities in Mexico for the last 40 years. Apart from his work with Mr. Amigo, Mr. Torres has been a chairman and member of the International Committee of the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce for over 20 years and helped establish the Junior Chamber of Commerce chapters in Mexico in Matamoros and Valle Hermoso.

Mrs. Torres, in addition to her accomplishments through the Mr. Amigo Association, created the event that now kicks off every Charro Days celebration since 1987. This event known as "Hands Across the Border," includes the exchange of national flags by schoolchildren from both Brownsville and Matamoros and the international greetings by their respective mayors. Her involvement in the community goes beyond the Mr. Amigo Association, as she played crucial roles in the establishment of magnet schools in Brownsville, the Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville Crime Stoppers, and the Palo Alto Visitors Center. She is also a supporter of the arts and an advocate for healthcare access, and her faith continues to drive her work for her community and its people.

As a couple, Bob and Rachel Torres have worked with the American Consul in Matamoros and the Mexican Consul in Brownsville. Additionally, their work translating countless contracts for labor unions, articles of incorporation, and official meeting minutes has been essential to the success of maquiladoras in Brownsville and Matamoros. All of their accomplishments mentioned here today do not come close to fully describing their unwavering commitment to the welfare of these two vibrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor these outstanding citizens who have not only fostered a strong relationship between Brownsville and Matamoros, but between the United States and Mexico as well.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
THOMAS JEFFERSON JOHNSON
AND HONORING THE SERVICE OF
MR. KEVIN JOHNSON**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of CPL. Thomas Jefferson Johnson and also honor the service of his son, Kevin Johnson. In 1944, Cpl. Johnson was killed in action during the invasion of Guam. Two years after his passing, Cpl. Johnson was buried by his loved ones, but it was without all the honors he deserved. On Janu-

ary 20, 2014, Kevin Johnson along with the Am Vets in Tulare, California gave Cpl. Johnson the funeral ceremony he rightly deserves. Cpl. Johnson was a source of pride for our Nation, and his service to our country must be honored.

Kevin Johnson was born in Oklahoma, but when the family farm was wiped out in a flood, the entire Johnson family moved to Chowchilla, California, where his father bought a small farm. The last time Mr. Johnson saw his father was in Oklahoma while they were visiting family before he left to the Pacific Theater. Without a father, Mr. Johnson was raised by his mother and grandparents.

After graduating from Tulare Union High, Mr. Johnson joined the military as his father did decades before. He was assigned to an Army Special Forces unit sent into the Vietnam jungle.

Mr. Johnson is a proud member of Am Vets in Tulare. They have been performing the military ceremony at veterans' funerals since 1963. The volunteer honor guard includes 13 men, and they perform 120 graveside services a year. Mr. Johnson and the men he serves with have the privilege to honor hundreds of brave men and women who fought for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of CPL. Thomas Jefferson Johnson as he is remembered and honored during the funeral ceremony that is long overdue. We also must recognize the bravery and service of his son, Mr. Kevin Johnson.

**IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
LACHMANN AND HIS CAREER IN
SERVICE**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I, along with House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, Jr., would like to take this opportunity to thank David Lachmann for his service to Congress and congratulate him on his retirement. David has worked in the House of Representatives for the past twenty-five years, many of those with the House Committee on the Judiciary.

David began serving as Legislative Director for Congressman NADLER's office in January 1993. He joined the staff of the House Committee on the Judiciary in 1998 as minority staff for the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. In 2001, David moved with Representative NADLER to the Constitution Subcommittee and became its Chief of Staff in 2006.

David has spent nearly thirty years in public service. Prior to joining Representative NADLER when he became a Congressman in 1993, David served as Legislative Assistant to Representative Stephen J. Solarz from 1989–1992. From 1985 to 1989, David was the Chief of Staff to Eileen C. Dugan, a member of the New York State Assembly, representing part of Brooklyn. A native of New York City, David is a graduate of Boston University and holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science.

David's ability to work well with his colleagues, especially across the aisle and

across the Capitol, made him a valuable staff asset to passing many key pieces of legislation. He had the lead staff responsibility in the House for several significant bills that were enacted into law including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (Public Law 103–141), the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (Public Law 106–274). He was the lead Democratic staffer during the debate over the Bankruptcy Abuse and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, and has been a key resource to Members, various Administrations, and colleagues on and off the Hill during the Subcommittee's consideration of critical constitutional, civil rights, and civil liberties issues.

We are deeply appreciative of the service and contributions that David has provided the Judiciary Committee and the Congress for the past twenty-five years. Over this time, many people on and off Capitol Hill have been fortunate to call him a colleague and friend. He will be missed. We wish him the best of fortunes and fulfillment in his future endeavors.

**HONORING THE SERVICE ACADEMY
NOMINEES OF THE 4TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF
PENNSYLVANIA**

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor thirty-three exceptional young men and women from the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania who have been nominated to attend a United States Service Academy. I submit with great pride the following nominations:

Nominated to the United States Military Academy—Matthew Benjamin, Jacob Jenkins, Chance King, Sabrina Mortell, Josh Mueller, Graeme Nelson, Zachary Schaeffer, and Tom Snell;

Nominated to the United States Naval Academy—Reed Alioth, Dom Antonelli, Bonaire Berry, Tyler Dolmetsch, Joe Fletcher, Matthew Gregoire, Liam Handley, Jacob Jenkins, Ian Johnson, Noah Krechel, Madi Luckenbaugh, Evan Miller, Logan Morris, Josh Mueller, Hayley Muddouh, Seth Murphy-Sweet, Graeme Nelson, Briannah Rohrbach, Sarah Sheerin, and Billy Stolkovich;

Nominated to the United States Air Force Academy—Hank Anderson, Donny Crabill, Matt Dieffenbach, Steven Foster, Noah Krechel, Marlaina McConville, Darren Miller, Evan Miller, and Natalie Seitz; and

Nominated to the United States Merchant Marine Academy—Jon Tarbox.

These individuals have distinguished themselves among their peers as leaders who are committed to serving their country in uniform. As these highly motivated and talented young men and women progress through the academy selection process, let us remember and be grateful for the sacrifice they are preparing to make in the name of our country and our citizens. I commend each, and wish them Godspeed in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
RITA BORNSTEIN, PH.D.

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Rita Bornstein. Dr. Bornstein served as the 13th president of Rollins College from 1990 to 2004. In 2001, she was named the George D. and Harriet W. Cornell Chair of Distinguished Presidential Leadership when Rollins received \$10 million for the first endowment of a college presidency in the nation. At the conclusion of her 14-year presidency, she was appointed the George D. and Harriet W. Cornell Chair of Philanthropy and Leadership Development at Rollins.

A recognized leader in higher education, Dr. Bornstein serves as a speaker and consultant on issues of leadership, governance, and fundraising in the nonprofit sector. She is also the author of over 40 articles, 14 book chapters, and five books, including *Legitimacy in the Academic Presidency: From Entrance to Exit*, published in November 2003 by ACE/Praeger. She has been featured or quoted in over 200 publications, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Under Dr. Bornstein's leadership, Rollins conducted the largest fundraising campaign in its history, raising \$160.2 million on a \$100 million goal. Before coming to Rollins, she was vice president for development at the University of Miami, where she led what was then one of the largest and most successful campaigns in the history of American higher education.

She has received numerous awards including the John Young History Maker Award, E. Burr Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award from CASE, Orlando Magazine's "50 Most Powerful People," Central Florida Woman of the Year, Junior Achievement Hall of Fame Laureate, Laureate for Lifetime Achievement in Fundraising from the Institute for Charitable Giving, the Henry A. Rosso Award for Lifetime Achievement in Ethical Fund Raising from The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, Citizen of the Decade from the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce, and three honorary doctorates.

Dr. Bornstein has served on numerous commissions, committees, non-profit and corporate boards including: Tupperware Corporation, Barnett Bank, NationsBank, Council for Advancement and Support of Education (Chair), American Council on Education, and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Currently, she is active on the boards of the the Association of Governing Boards, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, and the Winter Park Health Foundation.

Dr. Bornstein earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees in English literature from Florida Atlantic University and was awarded a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Miami.

I am happy to honor Dr. Rita Bornstein, during Women's History Month, for her accomplishments and commitment to education and public service.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LISA LOPEZ

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Lisa Lopez, a leader and advocate for workers' rights. Lisa was born in The Bronx, New York. She was raised by a very caring single mother of five, including Lisa's twin sister Elizabeth. She attended Grace Vocational High School and worked in retail stores while living in New York City.

In 1990, Lisa moved to Florida in an attempt to improve her quality of life. She worked tirelessly in the fast food and supermarket industries; working two jobs a day for many years. Lisa has a strong work ethic and is often recognized as a team leader. She believes in equality and fair pay for all.

As such, she joined Our Walmart, an organization that envisions a future in which Walmart treats its Associates with respect and dignity. After two years of employment at a Central Florida Walmart, Lisa took the courageous step of going on strike after Walmart retaliated against her for speaking out about working conditions.

I met Lisa when I visited the Walmart where she worked on Black Friday 2012. I delivered bagged lunches to employees along with flyers on their right to organize. Lisa was exceptionally brave and committed to her rights as an employee. She was the only employee to walk out on strike with me that night.

Lisa has become a spokesperson for Our Walmart, traveling throughout the country and meeting with workers and government officials. In her spare time, she volunteers at her church and spends time with her three sons, Giovanni, Christopher, and Justin. She is also a grandmother to Giovanni Jr.

I am happy to honor Lisa Lopez, during Women's History Month, for her dedication to workers' rights.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF DEIRDRE MACNAB

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Deirdre Macnab, a leader in the Central Florida community. Macnab is in her third term as President of the League of Women Voters of Florida. During her presidency, the Florida League played a leadership role in the passage of Amendments 5 and 6 to the Florida Constitution. The Amendments lent a decisive blow to decades of partisan gerrymandering that plagued Florida's redistricting process. In addition, the League is a leading organization in voter education.

Macnab's background includes an M.B.A. from Columbia University in marketing and finance, and a B.A. from New York University in history and political science. She has worked for Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, Manville Corporation and Bankers Trust, and was president of her own direct marketing consulting firm in Nashville, TN.

Macnab has served on several boards including the Board of Correction, a watchdog agency working in New York City prisons. She was also elected to the Board of Education in Nashville, TN and appointed by Mayor Shirley Franklin of Atlanta to serve as her designate on the Fulton County Library Board. In addition, Macnab is a former member of the Board of MyRegion.org, a seven-county visioning coalition in Central Florida and a former member of WMFE's Citizens Advisory Board.

Macnab has received La Prensa newspaper's *Mujeres Destacadas* Award for being a "Community Champion," the Florida Com-

mission on the Status of Women Florida Achievement Award for 2012, and been named the Orlando Sentinel Most Influential Central Floridian of the Year for 2012. Senator Bill Nelson and Senator Marco Rubio appointed Macnab to sit on the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for the state of Florida. The Commission submits candidates for Federal judgeships to the President.

I am happy to honor Deirdre Macnab, during Women's History Month, for her leadership and dedication to civic engagement and service.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN PATRICIA "PAT" SCHROEDER

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize the outstanding contributions of former Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, who now lives in Central Florida. Born in Portland, Oregon in 1940, Patricia "Pat" Schroeder graduated magna cum laude in 1961 from the University of Minnesota while working as an insurance claims adjuster to support herself through college. Mrs. Schroeder went on to Harvard Law School, where she was one of only 15 women in a class of more than 500 men. She earned her J.D. in 1964 and moved to Denver, Colorado with her husband, James.

In 1972, Schroeder won election for Congress in Colorado's first district, based in Denver, over freshman Republican incumbent James McKeivitt. At age 31, Schroeder was the second-youngest woman ever elected to the United States Congress. A mother of two young children at the time of her election to the House, Mrs. Schroeder went on to serve 12 terms.

While in Congress, she became the first woman to serve on the House Armed Services Committee. She was also a member of the original U.S. House Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, established in 1983.

Schroeder, who was known in her early tenure for balancing her congressional work with motherhood, even bringing diapers to the floor of Congress, also became known for her advocacy on work-family issues. She was the main force behind the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and the 1985 Military Family Act.

Schroeder was also involved in the reform of Congress itself, working to weaken the longstanding control of committees by their chairs, sparring with Speaker Carl Albert over congressional "hideaways," and questioning why Members who lived in their offices should not be taxed for the benefit. Mrs. Schroeder left Congress undefeated in 1996 after representing Colorado's First Congressional District in the House of Representatives for 24 years.

Following her retirement from Congress, Schroeder was a Professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Currently, she is very active in all aspects of the Central Florida community. In addition to heading the Association of American Publishers (AAP), she also serves on the Marguerite Casey Foundation Board of Directors, the American Bar Association's Center for Human Rights Executive Committee, and is the Chair of the Council for a Livable World's PeacePAC.

Mrs. Schroeder is the author of two books: "Champion of the Great American Family" and

"24 Years of House Work . . . and the Place Is Still a Mess." She lives with her husband, James in Celebration, Florida.

I am honored to recognize former Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, during Women's History Month, for her many contributions.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE LEVY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joe Levy who passed away on February 10, 2014, at the age of 82. Joe was a pillar in the community, and his support, dedication, and commitment to the success of the City of Fresno will be greatly missed.

Joe was born and raised in Fresno, California. After graduating from Fresno High School, he attended the University of Southern California. He then went on to work in Des Moines, Iowa, for Younker's department store. In 1956, Joe's journey with Gottschalks began. When he joined the company in 1956, Gottschalks had one store in Downtown Fresno. Under Joe's leadership as CEO and Chairman, the company grew to 80 stores.

Joe was a savvy businessman, but his success was attributed to more than just knowing how to run a business. His understanding and compassion for others were significant traits that contributed to Joe's accomplishments. He truly cared for his employees, and during a time when it was a contentious issue, Joe was a strong advocate for women's advancement in the workplace.

Joe helped shape the Valley's business community, but his influence spread to all sectors of the region. His advocacy led to building California's Highway 41, and he was a tireless supporter of Measure C, which helped pay for segments of Highways 41, 168, and 180. Joe was also devoted to the revitalization of Downtown Fresno. He was an active member in the Downtown Association, and he understood the importance of a prospering downtown hub in order to have a thriving economy in the City of Fresno. In addition, Joe served as President of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

In 1954, Joe married the love of his life, Sharon. They would have been married 60 years this week. Joe and Sharon shared a love for their community. They raised three children: Felicia, Jody, and Bret. Joe's children, nine grandchildren, relatives, and friends will always have a special place in their heart for Joe. Every day he demonstrated the importance of treating others with kindness and respect.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Joe Levy. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on in the City of Fresno.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the tragedy that took place in Khojaly, Azerbaijan 22 years ago today, February 25, 1992. That evening, scores of lives of innocent Azerbaijanis living in Khojaly were lost and many others were wounded or taken hostage when their city was brutally attacked.

With a population of 7,000, Khojaly was one of the three largest urban settlements of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Nagorno-Karabakh is recognized by the United States and the United Nations as Azerbaijani territory occupied by Armenia.

At the time, the Khojaly tragedy was widely covered by the international media, including the Boston Globe, Washington Post, New York Times, Financial Times, and many other European and Russian news agencies.

Over two decades later, there is still too little attention or interest paid to the plight of Khojaly outside of Azerbaijan.

According to Human Rights Watch and other international observers the massacre was committed by Armenian troops, reportedly with the help of the former Soviet 366th Motor Rifle Regiment. Human Rights Watch described the Khojaly Massacre as "the largest massacre to date in the conflict" over Nagorno-Karabakh. In a 1993 report, they stated "there are no exact figures for the number of Azeri civilians killed because Karabakh Armenian forces gained control of the area after the massacre" and "while it is widely accepted that 200 Azeris were murdered, as many as 500–1,000 may have died."

Soon after the attack, Time Magazine published the following report on the Khojaly Massacre: "While the details are disputed, this much is plain: something grim and unconscionable happened in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly two weeks ago. So far, some 200 dead Azerbaijanis, many of them mutilated, have been transported out of the town tucked inside the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh for burial in neighboring Azerbaijan. The total number of dead—the Azerbaijanis claim 1,324 civilians were slaughtered, most of them women and children—is unknown."

Azerbaijan has been a strong strategic partner and friend of the United States. The tragedy of Khojaly was a crime against humanity and I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with the people of Azerbaijan as they commemorate this tragedy and urge world leaders to help bring a peaceful solution to the occupation of these lands.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 62.

I had to depart DC early in order to arrive in GA in time to attend prior obligations there that would have been missed had I stayed in DC, due to the quickly deteriorating weather conditions in Washington and Georgia that eventually forced the closure of all the local airports in DC and Atlanta.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE LIFE OF HUBERT WALSH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Hubert Walsh, known to many as "Hub," who passed away on February 10, 2014, at the age of 89. Hub's service to our nation and his contributions to the community of Merced are countless and deeply appreciated.

Born January 16, 1925, in Blue Ridge, Texas, Hub was the youngest of eight children. Hub worked hard to help make ends meet for his single mother and his siblings by working on farms and picking cotton. In 1943, he graduated from Anna High School and enlisted in the United States Army, where he served his country in World War II. After three years of service in France, the Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Europe, Mr. Walsh was honorably discharged in January 1946. Not long after his discharge, Hub enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served in historic operations, including the Berlin Air Lift, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War.

In 1946, Hub met his future wife, Mary Elizabeth Worthen, while stationed in Rockwell, New Mexico. They met over the Thanksgiving holiday while traveling on the same bus to visit their respective families, and soon they began dating. One day after Christmas in 1947, they married and spent the next 63 years together. Hub and Mary had three children together and lived in 20 homes in six states, finally settling in the Central Valley.

After retiring from the U.S. Air Force in 1969, Mr. Walsh attended Merced College and Stanislaus State University. Hub was a dedicated servant of the local community of Merced, where he worked as a substitute teacher for Merced City Schools and Merced High School. In addition, he was a devout Christian and served as a deacon in the Southern Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Hubert Walsh. He was a pillar of our community who will be greatly missed.